**Ideal Math Students**

1) Are aware of where they stand in regard to necessary prerequisite skills, realizing that weaker skills require a greater time commitment to the course at hand.

2) Show up on time and stay to the end of class.

3) Act respectfully, like they are in an institution of higher learning.

4) Take responsibility for absences and are aggressive in making up work missed.

5) Have a positive attitude toward the subject matter at all times.

6) Recognize where they stand in regard to the rate at which they work mathematical exercises and continually strive to improve their processing speed without compromising accuracy.

7) Work in pencil, doing all problems sequentially downward in a neat and organized manner.

8) Do their own work! They understand what is expected of them in regards to academic integrity.

9) Will work ahead, rather than procrastinate.

10) Follow up graded material appropriately, by thoroughly going over an assignment after it is returned.

11) Actively participate in class.

12) See more to a problem than greets the eye. For instance, the text may read: “Solve $x^2 = 12x$,” but the ideal math student sees “Find the two solutions to the quadratic equation $x^2 = 12x$ by first getting 0 on one side.”

13) Follow sound strategies for preparing to take a test.

14) Follow an appropriate test-taking strategy.